Reply to Office action of January 2, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An inking unit for a printing machine, which is assigned to a printing form, comprising:

a first distributor roller and a second distributor roller, said first distributor roller being in rolling contact simultaneously with two ink applicator rollers and being disposed more closely to the printing form than said second distributor roller, said first distributor roller axially oscillating more slowly than said second distributor roller, said first and second distributor rollers being rotatively driven formlockingly.

Claim 2 (original): The inking unit according to claim 1, wherein said second distributor roller is axially oscillatable twice as quickly as said first distributor roller, so that a ratio between frequencies of oscillations of said two distributor rollers is 1:2.

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Claim 3 (original): The inking unit according to claim 1, wherein a ratio between frequencies of the axial oscillations of said two distributor rollers is 1:3.

Claim 4 (original): The inking unit according to claim 1, wherein said second distributor roller is disposed more closely to an ink duct than is said first distributor roller.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A printing machine having a printing form and an inking unit, comprising:

a first distributor roller and a second distributor roller, said first distributor roller being in rolling contact simultaneously with two ink applicator rollers and being disposed more closely to the printing form than said second distributor roller, said first distributor roller axially oscillating more slowly than said second distributor roller, said first and second distributor rollers being positively driven in a rotational manner.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The inking unit according to claim 1, further comprising a gear mechanism for axially oscillating said first distributor roller more slowly than said second distributor roller.

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Claim 7 (previously presented): The inking unit according to claim 5, further comprising a gear mechanism for axially oscillating said first distributor roller more slowly than said second distributor roller.